



**Organization's
Application
to Sponsor a Specialty
License Plate**
Fee – \$4,000

Office Use Only

1003 Buckskin Drive Deer Lodge, MT 59722-2371 • Phone (406) 846-6000 Fax (406) 846-6039 • mvdtitleinfo@mt.gov

*Read the information on page 2 of this form, then complete the application below and submit it to this office.
If you are an organization, complete A and C -- if you are a governmental body or governmental sponsor, complete B and C.*

A ORGANIZATION (other than governmental body) APPLYING FOR SPONSORSHIP:

Name of organization	Telephone Number	Tax ID Number	
Mailing address	City	State	Zip
Physical address	City	State	Zip
Signature of official authorized to sign for the organization	Printed name	Date	

The required donation as determined by the sponsor is \$_____; renewal (if applicable) is \$_____. These fees may not be changed unless a new plate design is authorized in accordance with 61-3-475. If charging a renewal fee, it must be the same fee as the required donation for programming ease.

The following proofs of qualification are attached:

- ____ Copy of the determination letter from the IRS of the applying organization's 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) tax exempt status.
- ____ Copy of charter or bylaws.
- ____ Proof of good standing if organization is a corporation and is required to be registered with the office of the Montana Secretary of State.
- ____ Proof that the organization's headquarters or base of operations is in Montana.
- ____ OR that the organization is in good standing and has authorization in writing from the parent organization to use the name and graphic of the parent organization.
- ____ Proof that the organization has an active telephone number listed under its name in one published Montana directory.

Name the specific directory: _____ Name the specific city: _____

In lieu of completing the proofs of qualifications, you may submit an opinion letter from an attorney licensed to practice in Montana that the applying organization meets all the requirements of MCA 61-3-473(3) and MCA 61-3-475(1).

B GOVERNMENTAL BODY APPLYING FOR SPONSORSHIP:

Name of executive body of a tribal government, state agency, commission or council of a local government or political subdivision, or name of school district	Telephone Number
Mailing address	City State Zip
Signature of tribal government official, state agency director, department head, commissioner or trustee	Printed name Date

If a state agency:

- ____ Identify the statutory authority under which you seek sponsorship of these plates: _____
- ____ Specify the account in which any plate donations will be placed: _____
- ____ Specify the amount of donation required for issuance: \$_____ and renewal \$_____. The fees may not be changed unless a new plate design is authorized in accordance with 61-3-475. If charging a renewal fee, it must be the same fee as the required donation fee for programming ease.

C

Name of organization specialty license plates liaison (please print)	E-mail address	Telephone no.
Mailing address	City	State Zip

I certify under penalty of law (Section 45-7-203, MCA, Unsworn Falsification to Authorities) that I have read, completed and have authority to submit this application on behalf of the organization and that the statements made herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____ Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Department use only:

- ☐ Your application for sponsorship is approved. Plate design is _____
- ☐ Your application for sponsorship is disapproved for the following reasons:

A qualified organization or governmental body may sponsor organization specialty license plates that display the sponsor's name, identifying phrase and a graphic. Qualified organizations and governmental bodies are defined as:

"Organization" means an association, corporation, group, or other entity recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax-exempt under 26 U.S.C.501(c)(3) and that does not have as its primary focus sectarian activities, including but not limited to activities aimed at promoting the adoption of one or more religious or political viewpoints. *Proof of qualification as an organization will be required.*

"Governmental body" means a tribal government, state agency, local government, school district, or other political subdivision within the state.

"Tribal government" means the officially recognized government of an Indian tribe, nation, or other organized Indian group or community located in Montana that is exercising self-government powers and that is recognized as being eligible for services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

The organization's or governmental body's name, identifying phrase, or graphic that will be placed on the organization specialty license plates may not:

Invoke connotations offensive to good taste and decency;
promote, advertise, or endorse a product, brand, or service for sale;
infringe or otherwise violate a trademark, trade name, service mark, copyright, or other proprietary or property right; or
obscure the organization specialty license plate letters or numbers that the department assigns.

The organization's headquarters or base of operations must be in the State of Montana or, if the organization is a chapter or branch of an international, national, or regional organization, the chapter or branch must be in good standing and have authorization in writing from the parent organization to use the name and graphic of the parent organization. The organization also must have an active telephone number listed under its name in at least one published Montana directory.

The organization or governmental body must designate one of its officers or employees as the organization specialty license plate liaison. Upon approval of sponsorship, the liaison shall:

Submit to this office the sponsor's name, identifying phrase, and graphic desired on the organization specialty license plate;
be responsible for all communications with the department regarding the sponsorship of the plates;
verify and approve in writing the prototype or mockup of the license plate before it is manufactured; and
determine a person's eligibility to receive the license plate and provide, on behalf of the sponsor, a written certificate of eligibility to an eligible person who has paid the required donation.

Upon approval of this application and before specialty license plates may be manufactured, the department shall assess and the sponsor shall pay a \$4,000 fee to reimburse the department for the initial costs incurred in producing the plates. In lieu of the fee, a minimum of 400 applications for your plates must be filed and prepaid with the department.

An organization may apply for and be approved to sponsor only one generic specialty license plate design at any time. Once a minimum 4-year period has expired, an organization may apply to the department for approval of a new generic specialty license plate design along with submission of the \$4,000 fee. If the department approves the organization's new generic specialty license plate design, issuance and renewal of the previously approved generic specialty plate must be discontinued, effective on the date of the initial distribution of the newly approved generic specialty license plate design.

Generic specialty license plates may not be placed on a vehicle that is permanently registered.

The department may revoke its previous approval of an organization's specialty license plate sponsorship if:

- (a) the sponsor fails to comply with these provisions;
- (b) fewer than 400 sets of a sponsor's license plate have been sold or renewed in the 12-month period immediately preceding the third anniversary of the date of initial distribution of the sponsored license plate; or
- (c) the department has reliable information that the sponsor is no longer qualified for sponsorship.

-> Upon revocation of a sponsor's license plate sponsorship status, the issuance and sale of the sponsor's license plates must be terminated and a donation fee may not be charged or collected upon registration renewal of a vehicle displaying previously issued license plates affiliated with that sponsor.

-> A person who owns a vehicle displaying valid generic specialty license plates affiliated with a sponsor whose sponsorship status has been revoked may continue to display those license plates on the person's vehicle if the vehicle's registration is properly renewed in subsequent years and the plates remain legible.

-> Following revocation of a sponsor's sponsorship status, the department may not issue duplicates of license plates affiliated with that sponsor that are lost, destroyed, or mutilated.

If the sponsor of a generic specialty license plate is not listed on the county collection report published by the Department of Revenue and required under 15-1-504 as of the initial distribution date for the sale of the sponsor's plates, the department shall require the sponsor to collect the initial donation fee from, and issue a special certificate of registration to, a person who is eligible to receive the sponsor's generic specialty license plates. The person shall present the special certificate of registration upon application for the generic specialty license plates.

Generic specialty license plates issued under 61-3-472 through 61-3-481 are not subject to any maximum issuance or use limitation that may be imposed on number plates.

All designs must adhere to the RULES established by the Department of Justice, Motor Vehicle Division, and must be approved by the Department of Justice, Motor Vehicle Division.

Applications will be processed as received and processing may take up to eight weeks. When processing is complete, we will notify the organizational liaison.